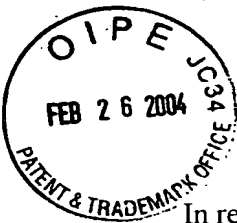


#8
BA3/2/04



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masahiro SUZUKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2612

Application No.: 09/497,482

Examiner: T. Henn

Filed: February 4, 2000

Docket No.: 103689.01

For: DIGITAL CAMERA, STORAGE MEDIUM FOR IMAGE SIGNAL PROCESSING,
CARRIER WAVE AND ELECTRONIC CAMERA

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

3/2/04
WJG
In reply to the February 6, 2004 Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect
Group I, claims 1-16. The election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related
that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a
search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that
the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.
See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire
application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits,
even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." It is respectfully
submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary
delay and expense to Applicants, and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully
requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Date: February 26, 2004

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